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ST★R Report

GBAC Offers Air Quality Improvement Measures to Help Communities Prosper

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GBAC Symposium 2022

Air Considerations
Chicago, Illinois
August 16-17, 2022

GBAC Validation Workshop 2022

Holland, Michigan
August 23, 2022

GBAC Offers Air Quality Improvement Measures to Help Communities Prosper

Dr. Deborah Birx, International Leadership to Share Impressive Learnings

GBAC Symposium 2022, Air Considerations is set for August 16-17 in Chicago, and promises to bring together some of the greatest minds in the world to discuss the quality of indoor air in non-health-care settings. This inaugural GBAC Symposium will be held at the Chicago Hyatt Regency, a GBAC-accredited facility, and features prominent scientists, innovations, advancements and leadership in air quality.

“The GBAC Symposium 2022, Air Considerations is focused on improving the quality of indoor air in non-health care settings such as schools, offices, restaurants and gyms by communicating best practices, advances in innovations, and programs and processes, the implementation of which will make these facilities safer not only during a pandemic, but also after the current crisis is behind



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— **Patty Olinger**
Executive Director, GBAC

that will be published in October, and detail viable technologies, programs and services such as ATP, qPCR, air monitoring, facility sensors, inspection software and other advancements. The August workshop, partnered with the upcoming soon-to-be-published toolkit, will include implementation guidance, recommendations, extended resources and more.

The educational opportunities presented by the GBAC Symposium 2022, Air Considerations and GBAC Validation Workshop 2022 could not be more essential, and come at a critical time as facilities laser-focus on good air quality and environmental monitoring and validation.

“The GBAC Symposium 2022, Air Considerations and GBAC Validation Workshop 2022 demonstrate the prominence that this organization places on improving indoor air quality,” Olinger said. “We urge facility directors, property managers, governmental representatives, consultants and others to attend and learn from international leaders in air quality considerations.

For the latest information on the GBAC Symposium 2022, visit <https://gbac.issa.com/events/gbac-symposium-2022>.

For the latest information on the GBAC Validation Workshop 2022, visit <https://gbac.issa.com/events/gbac-validation-workshop-2022>. ★

us,” Patty Olinger, Executive Director, GBAC, said.

Michael Diamond, Senior Director, Technology and Programs, GBAC, and organizer of this event, noted the learnings offered at the GBAC Symposium 2022, Air Considerations are in great demand. “It is imperative that interested parties register immediately. Registration will be limited to ensure maximum learnings opportunities for those attending,” he said.

Diamond will also lead the full-day GBAC Validation Workshop 2022 scheduled for August 23 at the GBAC Training Facility in Holland, Michigan. This event will discuss the upcoming GBAC Measurable Auditing Toolkit

Soliciting for Sponsors, Exhibits and Abstracts

Diamond notes that sponsors and exhibits are being sought for the GBAC Symposium 2022 and the GBAC Validation Workshop 2022. Packages range from limited exhibiting, networking or traditional opportunities. Also, those driving facility infection prevention research and practice/process improvements may submit abstracts with an opportunity to present at the GBAC Symposium 2022, Air Considerations. Submission deadline is June 15, 2022, and the submissions must be focused on infectious disease and air transmission, and must be original work that has not been previously published or presented. Accepted abstracts will be presented as a poster in a scheduled poster area during the GBAC Symposium 2022, and will be published on the GBAC-TIPS Journal. You must be registered for the conference to present your poster.

For more information on sponsorships or abstracts, contact Diamond at MichaelD@issa.com.

GBAC Symposium 2022 Air Considerations Event Schedule

Tuesday, August 16

Noon – 5:00 p.m.

Registration Begins – Exhibitor/Sponsor Setup

5:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Start Networking Mixer

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Clean Air in Buildings Challenge Discussion

Speaker: John Lowe, PhD

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Continuation: Networking Mixer & Dinner in Exhibit Hall

Wednesday, August 17th

6:30 – 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast in Exhibit Hall

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Patricia Olinger, JM, RBP

8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Keynote: Dr. Deborah Birx

Stopping the pandemic of magical thinking: COVID-19 and More — What Have We Learned, What Can We Do Better? Dr. Birx will discuss the Pandemic, what may be coming next, and will discuss a holistic, data-driven integrated approach to mitigate future biorisks and provide resilient common-sense solutions.

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Air Quality Considerations for Non-Healthcare, As Built Environments

Mark Hernandez, Ph.D.

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m. – Noon

Panel: Facility Air Monitoring

Mark Hernandez, Ph.D.

John Larochelle – President, Lighthouse EIP

Elizabeth Caley – CEO, Poppy

Dr. John McKeon – CEO, Allergy Standards

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch in Exhibit Hall (1 hour)

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Keynote: Cleaning for Health to Create the Healthiest Possible Indoor Environment

Dr. John McKeon, CEO Allergy Standards

Dr. John McKeon will highlight the need for an integrated approach when it comes to managing the air we breathe in our indoor environments. This talk will focus on the “Building Science Trifecta” of Air Quality, Energy Efficiency, and Materials Science, how each is interdependent, and why “cleaning for health” and not just for appearance should be the mantra for all purpose-driven building professionals.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Panel: Enhance Air Filtration and Cleaning

Paul Meehan, PhD

John Lowe, PhD

Stefan Wagener, PhD, SM (NRCM), CBSP, RBP

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Network Break in Exhibit Hall

(30 min)

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Group Discussion & Breakout Session

Lessons Learned

Key needs moving forward

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Closing Address

Patricia Olinger, JM, RBP

Please note that times and topics may be subject to change.

GBAC Validation Workshop 2022

Event Schedule

Monday, August 22

5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Networking Mixer

Home2 Suites by Hilton Holland
3140 West Shore Drive Holland, Michigan 49424 USA

Tuesday, August 23

8:30 a.m.

Start

GBAC

Training Center

280 E 64th St, Holland, MI 49423

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Opening Address

Patricia Olinger and Michael Diamond

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

Facility Validation and Assessment

Speaker: John LaRochelle

A critical first step in validating the effectiveness of your current environmental infection prevention program is a comprehensive assessment/audit. We need to better understand where the potential opportunities are for improvement. This includes but is not limited to, biological sampling and assessment of hard and soft surfaces, air quality, equipment used for cleaning and disinfection, waste management, and water. A comprehensive audit not only allows us to identify initial areas for improvement, but it is also a way to ensure the ongoing quality assurance of your programs.

10:15 – 10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Following the Energy: Environmental Monitoring Through ATP

Speaker: Dave Mains, Ph.D.

ATP is the dominant energy currency for life on Earth and is present in a wide variety of organic residues. As such, determination of ATP levels on surfaces serves as a useful indicator of general cleanliness that can be rapidly assayed with today's mature solutions and can be the cornerstone of a robust environmental monitoring program.

11:15 a.m. – Noon

TBA

Speaker: TBA

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 – 1:45 p.m.

qPCR: Validation at Every Swab

Speakers: Jeremy Duguay, MSc and Cody Ray

qPCR is quickly finding new applications in both industrial and environmental monitoring. As the Gold Standard throughout the pandemic, society has come to rely on the accuracy and speed of qPCR technology in clinical settings. qPCR enables non-scientists to accurately validate both the efficacy of their cleaning programs and water treatment plans.

1:45 – 2:30 p.m.

Healthy Air, Verified

Speakers: Elizabeth Caley

By bringing biotechnology to buildings, it's now possible to create and verify infection-resistant facilities. Improving and verifying indoor air safety is incredibly important for human transmissible illnesses. And we can also learn a lot from air as a universal medium (vs. surfaces or water) like how facilities can affect human health--from salmonella to influenza, and property value--from molds to pests. Join this session to learn what's now possible using new systems and technologies, and the collective best practices from hundreds of facilities today.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Validation Rounds and Breakout Session

Step by Step walkthrough of various facility environment types showcasing and demonstrating technologies and programs

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Closing Address

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Dinner & Networking Mixer

Please note that times and topics may be subject to change.



Just the Right Size for Incredible Results

One of the latest tools to help ensure safety in our workplaces is not huge and bulky, but fits into a kit sized for the space required for carry-on luggage. Although its footprint is small, LuminUltra GeneCount® Technology's positive impact is impressive, a turn-key solution for rapid onsite detection of viral and microbial threats. In fact, the science is so remarkable that LuminUltra was awarded recognition as one of the first GBAC STAR™ Registered Technologies.

"First, it's incredibly specific and accurate and used as the gold standard for clinical testing and environmental testing that came out during the pandemic targeted for human infections of SARS-CoV-2. It's tried-and-true technology that's been validated by most major scientific bodies in the world," Cody Ray, Director of Business Development of North America, LuminUltra, said. "Secondly, it's portable — basically a lab in a box. I travel quite often to

complete demos with my kit, and it goes with me on the plane. It will fit into an overhead compartment. Finally, it's the simplicity behind LuminUltra. We can have the greatest science in the world, but if I can't get the facilities director to run the tests because they're so complicated and cumbersome, it doesn't play well for anyone."

Founded in 1995, LuminUltra is a molecular biological diagnostic testing company headquartered in Canada, with operations in six countries. Widely recognized as a global leader in developing tests and reagents for environmental, industrial and diagnostic monitoring applications, the company is a key supplier of COVID-19 diagnostic testing reagents. Dozens of Fortune 500 customers across more than 80 countries employ LuminUltra's technology, production reliability and history of customer service excellence to deliver essential services in a safe state.

What's Inside?

LuminUltra's GeneCount Technology is a turn-key solution for rapid on-site detection of viral and microbial threats. This technology consists of:

- Sample collection and preservation kits
- RNA extraction and purification kits tailored for lab and field environments
- RT-qPCR assays for specific pathogens, including SARS-CoV-2
- qPCR equipment (thermocyclers) purpose tailored for lab and field environments
- Software packages for results interpretation, reporting and distribution.

"It's a non-invasive way to surveil a community's building occupants to give you predicting outcomes. It's that sensitive," Ray said. "We see surveys that when this type of surface technology is used to measure COVID activity on floors, it's a predictive measure to detect the virus up to a week prior to cases being reported through clinical indicators, giving early warning before outbreaks can really take hold."



visit <https://gbac.issa.com/gbac-star-registered-programs> to learn about who is eligible, what it means to be registered and the application fees. To begin the process, companies must complete the interest form from the website which will generate an email to be provided to the applicant and they can set up a brief consultation to go over their product or technology.

In addition to the recognition, LuminUltra was featured in the first GBAC STAR Registered Technology and Registered Programs webinar in late March. Many more webinars featuring our GBAC STAR Registered Technologies and Programs are being planned. For the latest information and to register, email <https://gbac.issa.com/gbac-star-registered-programs/> ★

LuminUltra GeneCount Technology is one tool in the toolbox that LuminUltra offers for pathogen detection. The company helps organizations identify the presence of SARS-CoV-2 on surfaces and in air and wastewater. The result is collecting reliable and accurate data to analyze and develop into strategic plans that mitigate risk to employees, customers and vendors, evaluate the health of facilities and help people make informed decisions. These work together to contribute to a safer workplace and community.

GBAC STAR Registered Technology and Registered Programs

GBAC STAR Registered Technology and Registered Programs allows companies to demonstrate how their technology or program aligns with GBAC STAR™ Accreditation and sets out specific requirements for manufacturers to register their equipment, products, programs and more with GBAC. The GBAC Scientific Advisory Board verifies each program or technology before it is registered. Achieving the registration is limited to only segments that are marketed and commercially available.

To begin the GBAC Registered Technologies and Programs process,

GBAC[®] tv

Worrisome News on Hepatitis and Kids

In the latest edition of BioTalk, Dr. Gavin Macgregor-Skinner, Senior Director, GBAC, a division of ISSA, shares developing details about an infection that the cleaning industry along with parents should closely monitor. Health-care professionals are highly concerned with an outbreak in children of hepatitis with a potential link to adenoviruses. Adenoviruses are common viruses that cause a variety of illnesses resulting in cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, bronchitis, pneumonia, diarrhea and pink eye.

The issue has grown so worrisome that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued a nationwide health alert after a rash of unexplained cases in children between 1 and 6 years old in Alabama. The World Health Organization issued



a multi-country alert after 169 cases of acute hepatitis were reported in 11 countries. Dr. Macgregor-Skinner will discuss the role the cleaning industry can play to address this public health issue.

BioTalk is a production of GBACtv, a webcast series produced by ISSA Media and the Global Biorisk Advisory Council™ (GBAC), a Division of ISSA, and hosted by Jeff Cross, ISSA Media Director. All episodes of BioTalk are available at <https://gbac.issa.com/media/gbactv>. The episode on "Hepatitis in Kids and Possible Adenovirus Link: What We Know Right Now" is available at <https://youtu.be/nLVknKj-gd8>. ★

Easing the Stress of Reaccreditation

More than 1,000 facilities have received their GBAC STAR Reaccreditation and many others have committed to the process, demonstrating a strong desire for more education and improvement. Facilities

are also discovering that the procedure is less demanding than the initial accreditation program.

"The documentation process is less tedious and much less time-consuming than the original documentation process, especially if you have kept up with the documents throughout the past year," Katie Cook, Program Manager, GBAC, said. "Remember, we have a team to answer any questions as you go through the reaccreditation process. If you need to update your contact information, have not received your reaccreditation information or if you have any questions, please reach out to gbacstar@issa.com."

The reaccreditation process is streamlined from the initial procedure. The customer will receive a notice that they are coming due for reaccreditation 90 days before expiration. Sixty days before expiration, the customer will then receive an invoice for the renewal payment, which will also include the distinct advantage of a multi-year renewal discount. Once the invoice is paid, facilities will receive a Reaccreditation Scorecard, the document used for submission. Once the Reaccreditation Scorecard and any supporting documents are submitted, a GBAC Analyst will review your application and reach out with any additional information needed.

The Nuts and Bolts of GBAC STAR

GBAC STAR is a continuous improvement program designed to ensure



Katie Cook
Program Manager
GBAC

those facilities continue to evolve, improve and advance with the performance-based GBAC STAR program elements. Reaccreditation is the next step in maintaining improvements for these documents and processes that were put into place throughout the last twelve months.

"The GBAC STAR Accreditation program establishes 20 program elements in the initial accreditation cycle. Over the past year, you have been able to identify areas for improvement found in your initial GBAC STAR program," Cook, said. "The reaccreditation cycle further helps facilities identify areas of improvement to create a more efficient and effective program."

The reaccreditation process includes these new learnings:

- Updates to Element 16, which strengthens infection prevention measures and highlights indoor air considerations
- Multi-year discounts for GBAC STAR reaccreditation
- Updated GBAC Fundamentals Course with new guidance and best practices
- GBAC Academy - Virtual and hands-on training and education opportunities
- GBAC Webinar Series (free to the GBAC STAR Family)
- GBAC Registered Programs and Technology
- GBAC Coaching Services

Cook added that continuing accreditation through the GBAC STAR Family offers extensive benefits, especially the webinar series and training opportunities. More offerings are anticipated in the future. ★

Where Do We Stand

GBAC STAR Facility Reaccreditation

GBAC STAR Family Reaccreditation is an annual process that builds on an initial accreditation to ensure those facilities continue to evolve, improve and advance with the performance-based GBAC STAR program elements. More than 4,000 facilities make up the GBAC STAR Family and many are in the process of reaccreditation, while others are initially becoming accredited.

GBAC STAR Family

As of April 15, 2022

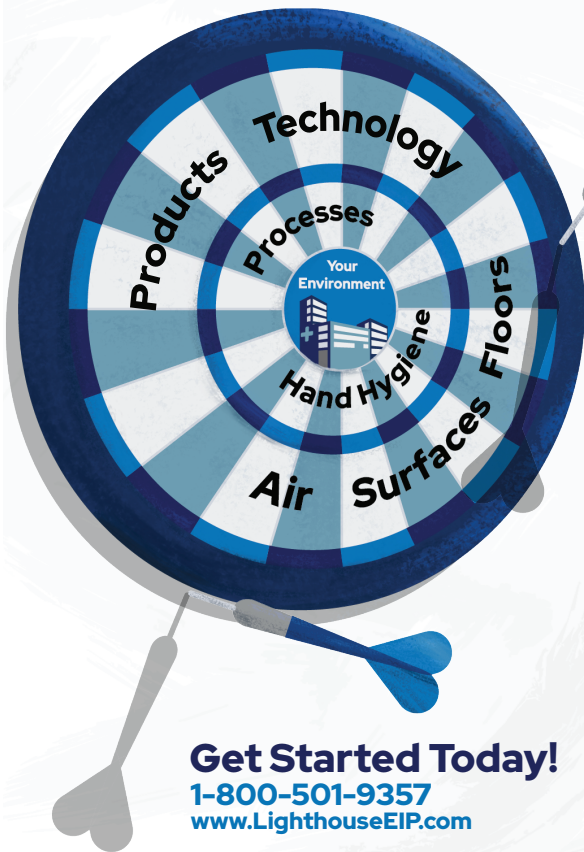
82% of facilities committed to reaccreditation

1,098 facilities reaccredited

To learn more about this process, contact GBAC Sales at <https://gbac.issa.com/contact>.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

.....
"CNA Asia Now" interviewed Dr. Gavin Macgregor-Skinner, Senior Director, Global Biorisk Advisory Council, to discuss the need for proper education and training to achieve responsible environmentally appropriate cleaning. The pandemic has made a huge demands on environmental services and has resulted in critical shortages with the labor force. Coronavirus is also forcing many industries to push to a higher standard of cleanliness to protect their employees, guests, clients and vendors. Here's what Dr. Macgregor-Skinner shares at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gv8ylrPUyA>. ★



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How effective are your environmental infection prevention strategies?

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- Reduce illness
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GBAC Symposium 2022

Air Considerations

Chicago, IL | August 16-17, 2022

Take home actionable insight on managing the air we breathe to create the healthiest possible indoor environment.

What you'll learn from industry experts:

- Best practices
- Advances in innovations
- Programs and processes
- New regulatory guidelines

REGISTER NOW

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Looking Ahead

Sign Up Now for GBAC STAR Bootcamp

The next session of the GBAC STAR Virtual Bootcamp is set to be held from 2-4 p.m. EST, May 10-11, 2022. Only 100 participants are allowed each month for the Virtual Bootcamp and signing up early is highly encouraged. This course is a two-day digital briefing that reviews the accreditation process and takes a deep dive into the 20 elements, with an extensive opportunity for questions and answers. The course readies clients for the task of gathering their documents for accreditation. To learn more about GBAC STAR Virtual Bootcamp and register, visit <https://events.issa.com/events/gbac-star-20-elements-bootcamp/>. ★

Complimentary Clings for Accredited Facilities

Looking to promote your GBAC STAR™ Accreditation? GBAC STAR-accredited facilities can now order GBAC STAR seal clings at no cost. These 5-inch-by-5-inch round static clings are easy to apply and easy to remove.

- Clings to any smooth glass surface (best use is on a mirror)

- Back cling
- Non-adhesive

An accredited facility can order up to 100 clings at once. Click here to place your order <https://gbac.issa.com/cling-order-form/>.

Your order will be shipped to you for free. ★



MEASURABLE DISINFECTANT SENSORS

AllClir's measurable disinfectant sensors represent a new, scalable approach to surface disinfection validation, training, and auditing. Sensors immediately and permanently change color when a disinfectant's initial wetness has been achieved on the surface.

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